Under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), as on date, 558 projects have been sanctioned with an outlay of Rs. 25,679.64 crore for providing electricity to 1,16,124 un-electrified villages, intensive electrification of 3,49,853 already electrified villages, releasing electricity connections to 4.09 crore rural households including 2.43 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. The cumulative achievement is the electrification of 53,048 hitherto un-electrified villages, intensive electrification of 66,808 already electrified villages and provision of electricity connections to 48.18 lakh rural households including 40.76 lakh BPL households.

In order to manage and boost energy efficiency, the Ministry is implementing a programme to encourage greater energy efficiency in the use of electricity laying down standards for minimum energy performance for electrical equipment and new commercial buildings, to promote agricultural and municipal demand side management, promote energy efficiency in small and medium enterprises and operationalise the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 by strengthening state designated agencies. The targeted reduction in demand by these interventions has been kept at 5% of the total capacity at the end of XI Plan, which translates into an avoided capacity addition of 10000 MW.

NTPC foray into power equipment manufacturing

1513. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC's corporate mission or business objective includes power equipment manufacturing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, to enable the company to take up fuel-related diversifications as backward integration, an amendment was made in the Memorandum of Association;

(d) if so, whether any such amendment has been made before committing NTPC to equipment manufacturing business through joint venture with private sector;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the whole exercise would facilitate private power plant equipment makers to have access to power equipment business through NTPC; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Main Object Clause of the Memorandum of Association of NTPC Ltd. does not specifically include power equipment manufacturing activities. However, Objects incidental or ancillary to the attainment of the main object of Memorandum of Association authorize the company to *inter-alia* enter into any Joint Venture with any person or company carrying on or engaged in or about to carry on or engage in any business or transaction, which the Company is authorized to carry on or engage in or any business undertaking or transaction which may seem capable of being carried on or conducted so as directly or indirectly to benefit the company.

(c) Yes, Sir. An amendment was made in 2005 in the Object Clause of Memorandum of Association for NTPC Ltd.'s foray into fuel related activities.

(d) and (e) NTPC Ltd. has informed that as the Objects incidental to the attainment of Main Objects as per Memorandum of Association permit NTPC Ltd. to take up Equipment Manufacturing through Joint Ventures, amendment in the Memorandum of Association to take up equipment manufacturing business is not necessary.

(f) and (g) The business between NTPC Ltd. and the Joint Venture Company is generally carried out in line with the provision of the respective JV agreements which stipulate that the business of Joint Venture Company (JVC) and Parties shall at all time be conducted as independent business and JVC and Parties may, however, transact business with each other or their respective affiliates at arms-length on mutually agreed commercial terms, and to the extent possible would purchase products and services which are or would be available from JVC or Shareholders or their respective affiliates, provided such products or services are competitive with other suppliers in terms of price, quality and other terms.

Power generation

1514. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power generation achieved in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the rate of growth of power generation in the country during each of these years;

(c) whether the present rate of growth of power generation is sufficient to meet the ever-rising need of electricity;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The power generation achieved in the last three years and the rate of growth during the last three years and the current year is given as under:

Year	Target (MU)*	Actual (MU)*	Growth (%)
2005-06	621.50	617.382	5.1
2006-07	663.00	662.43	7.3
2007-08	710.00	704.46	6.3
2008-09**	514.021	479.774	2.8

* Million Unit

** Upto November, 2008.

Note: The generation figures include import of hydro-electric power from Bhutan

(c) to (d) The present rate of growth of power generation is falling short of the rate of growth in demand for electricity, primarily due to inadequate capacity addition, inadequate availability of coal, gas and nuclear fuel, very high prices of gas and naphtha in international market making these fuels unaffordable, delay in achieving commercial operation of generating units due to delay in completion of balance of plant works by the contractors and poor financial position of state utilities making it difficult for them to raise the resources necessary for making the required investments to create adequate generation, transmission and distribution system.